Suit Filed In Federal Court Claims:

MEMBERS of Warren Commission (from left): Rep. Gerald Ford, Rep. Hale Boggs, Sen. Richard Russell, Chief Justice Earl Warren, Sen. John Cooper, John McCloy, Allen Dulles and counsel J. Lee Rankin.

Warren Commission Covered Up Plot to Kill JFK in Chicago 20 Days Before His Death in Dallas

Twenty days before President Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, four men planned to kill the President at a football game in Chicago — according to charges made in a lawsuit filed in a federal court. The plotters, the suit claims, included Lee Harvey Oswald, a man who was an amazing double of Oswald, and possibly a member of the U.S. Secret Service.

But evidence of this earlier plot and all the stunning implications growing out of it have been deliberately covered up by the Warren Commission, says Sherman H. Skolnick in his suit.

Skolnick, a 39-year-old invalid who has become widely known over the past 12 years for his legal battles in Chicago area courts, is demanding that the National Archives in Washington reveal the details of the plan to murder

JFK in Chicago.

Skolnick's suit, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, claims the full story is known to certain federal authorities, but that the National Archives is suppressing all facts relating to the Chicago death plot of Nov. 2, 1963.

"This is the best-documented suit I've ever filed," Skolnick said. "I believe it is the first legal action ever taken to open up the Warren Commission files to the public."

Some of Skolnick's past legal actions have been thrown out of court.

But others have been highly successful — often to the embarrassment of high public officials.

One Skolnick suit forced reapportionment of Chicago's 50 alderman wards. Other actions by the Chicago man turned up several conflict-of-interest situations involving federal judges — including Associate Justice William O. Douglas of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In his suit against the National Archives, which preserves valuable public documents, he claims the support of ex-Secret Service agent Abraham Bolden, one of the agents assigned to guard President Kennedy on his visit to Chicago.

CRUSADING CITIZEN: Sherman Skolnick has filed suit to make the National Archives reveal details of plot to murder JFK in Chicago.

After JFK's assassination, Bolden, the first Negro Secret Service man ever to guard a President, was convicted of trying to sell a government document to a counterfeiter and sent to prison.

Skolnick claims the charge was trumped-up merely to keep Bolden, now free on parole, from testifying to the Warren Commission about "Secret Service laxity, insobriety and other matters in respect to the assassination."

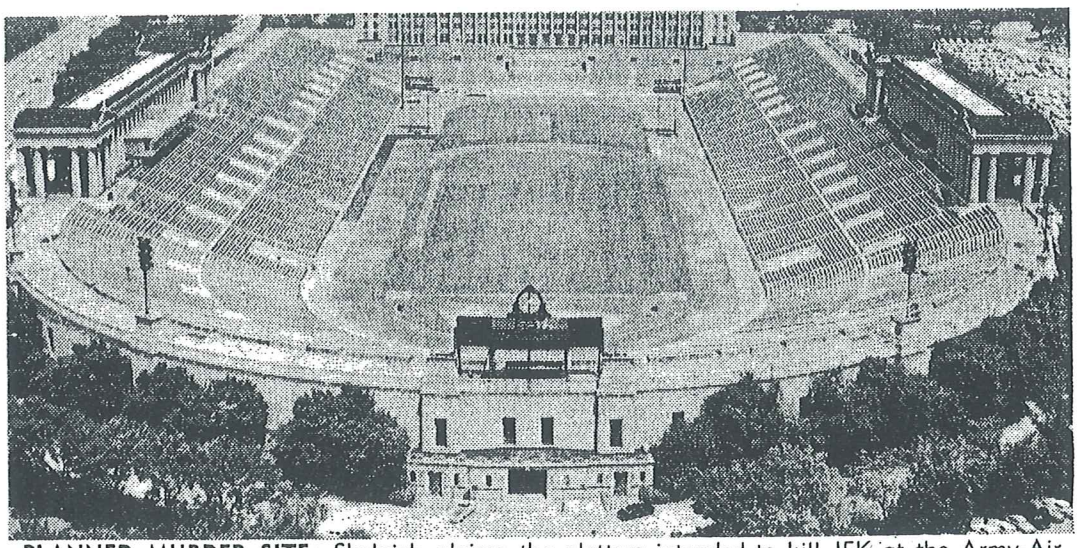
In his suit, Skolnick quotes Bolden as saying: "I have evidence that a member of the Secret Service had a part in the planning of the assassination. Someone — an agent — could be indicted for it."

He promised to bring out more data at the trial, a date for which has not yet been set.

Skolnick contends that both the Chicago police and the Secret Service were fully aware that an assassination plot existed in Chicago during President Kennedy's visit.

"All Secret Service agents in Chicago were shown four photos of the men allegedly involved in the plot or plots," Skolnick's suit says.

"As a result of surveillance, the plot



PLANNED MURDER SITE: Skolnick claims the plotters intended to kill JFK at the Army-Air Force football game at Chicago's Soldier Field.

or plots, was thought to be genuine."

Among those involved, the suit claims, "were a person known as Thomas Arthur Vallee, a possible double for a person known as Lee Harvey Oswald, and three or four others including Lee Harvey Oswald, or a person using such name . . ."

Skolnick says the plotters, who intended to kill the President at the Army-Air Force football game at Chicago's Soldier Field on November 2, were thwarted by the activities of a man named Daniel Groth.

Groth, whom the suit describes as a man known to "hang around" the Chicago Secret Service office, served as a key witness against Vallee, the alleged Oswald double, when Vallee was arrested on November 2 on an "unlawful use of weapon" charge.

Vallee was stopped by Chicago police on a traffic violation and officers found a large knife in his car.

The illegal weapon charge was ultimately dropped and Valle paid only a $5 fine for the traffic violation.

SECRET SERVICE AGENT Abraham Bolden was assigned to guard President Kennedy on his Chicago visit.

But Skolnick's suit maintains that Vallee's timely arrest broke up the planned attempt on JFK's life. The suit claims that, on November 3, the day after his arrest, Vallee was interrogated by a federal official about his relationship with Lee Harvey Oswald.

Skolnick alleges that certain documents in the National Archives reveal that Vallee drove a car to Chicago which was registered to Oswald and that Vallee may have been the actual recipient of the rifle used by Oswald in the assassination of Kennedy in Dallas. The gun was ordered from a Chicago mail-order firm.

The Chicago crusader also wants former Secret Service agent Bolden's story told in full.

Bolden was arrested by fellow Secret Service operatives on May 18, 1964, just as he was attempting to contact J. Lee Rankin, general counsel of the Warren Commission.

Bolden was subsequently hustled off to prison and was not allowed to testify.

Skolnick alleges that Bolden's testimony might show that the Secret Service was not only lax and careless in protecting the President's life, but that one of its own agents might actually have been a conspirator in the assassination plot.

Skolnick demands that the entire Warren Commission report "be declared void" and that the National Archives be forced by law to release "all suppressed documents, papers and exhibits in relation to the Chicago plot or plots to assassinate President Kennedy."

As chairman of a group called the Citizens' Committee to Clean Up the Courts, Skolnick insists he will push his legal action all the way to the Supreme Court if necessary.

"I never give up until I exhaust all possible legal remedies," Skolnick said.

— BILL SLOAN

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